1   VOTING DEVICE WITH ~~IMMEDIATE~~ ENHANCED FEEDBACK

2   Abstract of the Disclosure

3   ~~All data registering devices, including voting machines, are subject to~~

4 ~~error, either from human lapses or mechanical malfunction.~~ The object of the

5 present invention is to disclose a <u>punch-card</u> voting device that ~~incorporates~~

6 ~~features that immediately alert~~ <u>alerts</u> the user to the fact that ~~an~~ <u>a</u>

7 <u>punching</u> error has occurred~~, before it is too late for the user to correct~~

8 ~~it~~. In voting devices that produce a machine-processable record card, such as

9 the Votomatic ~~and the Poll Star~~, votes are counted photo-electrically by

10 shining a light through holes punched in the ballot card. According to the

11 present invention, the greatest certainty regarding what punch-outs represent

12 a valid vote can be obtained only if the same principle is employed to inform

13 the voter as to whether <u>or not</u> his punch-out is ~~or is not in the intended~~

14 ~~position and is a complete punch-out~~ <u>going to count</u>. To provide ~~the voter~~

15 ~~with~~ this verification, backlighting is introduced that directs a beam of

16 light upward through each punch-out toward the voter's eye. To achieve the

17 optimum results, ~~which demand that the frequency of faulty ballots be less~~

18 ~~than about one percent, the special backlighting features employed are~~ <u>this</u>

19 <u>backlighting is combined with</u> mechanical improvements that minimize defective

20 punch-outs.

21   ~~20R~~ <u>21R</u>